

REMARKS

This responds to the Final Office Action dated October 6, 2006 (herein after “Office Action”). Claims 2, 4-6, 8, 24, and 38-39 are currently amended; claims 7 and 25-26 were previously, and claims 23 and 27-34 are currently, canceled; and claims 40-50 are added. Accordingly, claims 2-6, 8-22, 24, and 35-50 are now pending in this application.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 1-6, 8, 23-24, 27-34 and 38, such that Applicants’ cancellation of claims 7, 23, and 25-34 is without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the canceled claims in one or more continuation applications at a later date.

Applicants submit the amendments and additions to the claims are fully supported by the specification as originally filed, and no new matter has been added.

Applicants hereby respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of pending claims 2-6, 8-22, 24, and 35-50.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants acknowledge the allowance of claims 10-22 and 35-37. (See Office Action at 7).

New Claims 40-50

Each new claim, claims 40-50, depend from one of the respective allowed claims 10, 19, 35, and 37. Therefore, the allowance of claims 40-50 is respectfully requested.

§112 Rejection of the Claims

In the Office Action, claim 39 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. (See Office Action at 2).

Claim 39 has been amended to clarify the subject matter therein. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit this basis of rejection of claim 39 is now moot.

§102 Rejections of the Claims

In the Office Action, claims 1-6, 8, 23-24, 27, 29-34 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Iwaszkiewicz et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,590,950). (*See* Office Action at 2-6).

Applicants have canceled claims 1, 23, 27, and 29-34 without prejudice or disclaimer and have amended claims 2-6, 8, 24, and 38 to depend from one of the respective allowed claims 36 and 37. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit this basis of rejection of claims 1-6, 8, 23-24, 27, 29-34 and 38 is now moot.

§103 Rejections of the Claims

In the Office Action, claim 28 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwaszkiewicz et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,590,950) in view of Wessman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,952,616). (*See* Office Action at 6-7).

Applicants have canceled claim 28 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit this basis of rejection of claim 28 is now moot.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney (612) 359-3276 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

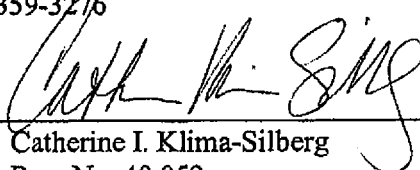
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 5 day of December 2006.

Name

Signature